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(71) Applicant: KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO CO LTD

(72) Inventor: KOSHIMURA HIROKAZU
TAKAMI HITOSHI
KUMAZAWA TOSHIAKI
TAKASAKI KOTARO
KISHIBAYASHI NOBUYUKI
ISHII AKIO
NONAKA HIROMI
KASE HIROSHI

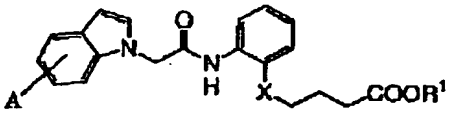
(54) **INDOLE DERIVATIVE**

(57) Abstract:

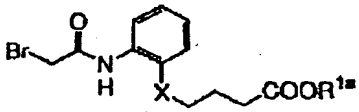
PURPOSE: To obtain a new compound having steroid 5α -reductase-inhibiting action and useful for treating prostatic hypertrophy, prostate cancer and acne.

CONSTITUTION: A compound of formula I {$R^1$ is H or lower alkyl ; A is $NO_2$ or $BR^2$ [$BR^2$ is $CONHR^2$, $COOR^2$ or $OR^2$; $R^2$ is H, $CHR^3$ or $R^4$ ($R^3$ and $R^4$ are each H, an alkyl or an aryl)] ; X is 0 or $S(O)_n$; (n) is 0-2} or its salt, e.g. 4-{2-[[5-nitroindol-1-yl)acetyl]amino]phenoxy}lactic acid ethyl. The compound of formula I is obtained by reacting a compound of formula II ($R^{1a}$ is a lower alkyl) with a compound of formula III in the presence of a base (e.g. potassium tert-butylate) in a solvent (e.g., dimethylformamide) at °C to a boiling point of the solvent for 0.5-6 hr. The compound of formula I is administered at a daily dose of 1mg to 1g/adult in the case of oral administration, at a daily dose of 0.1-100mg in the case of parenteral administration, e.g. intravenous administration and at a daily dose of 10mg to 100mg in the case of dermal administration.

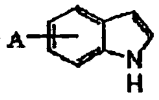




I



II



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